

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
OLOFSSON ET AL.

Serial No. 09/582,637

Filing Date: October 20, 2000

For: IMPROVEMENTS IN, OR RELATING
TO, TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Examiner: R. Barnie

Art Unit: 2643

Official

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RESPONSE

Director, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of August 6, 2002,
please consider the remarks set out below.

REMARKS

Applicants again thank the Examiner for the thorough examination of the application. Claims 34-63 remain pending in the application. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested for at least the reasons set forth below.

As previously discussed, the present invention, as recited, for example, in independent Claim 34, is directed to an active POTS splitter comprising active splitter circuitry for connecting to a subscriber line to separate analog POTS signals from xDSL signals, and line test circuitry associated with the active splitter circuitry for transmitting a test signal on the line based upon at least one of an event and receipt of a test request signal. In addition, the claim recites that the line test circuitry has associated therewith a unique identity code transmitted with the test signal. Independent Claim 46 is directed to a method including use of such features in measuring quality parameters relating to xDSL